ARTS PDF Crackerjack

Version 4.2

www.artspdf.com

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2.0 Introduction

This document contains information on both the **Macintosh** and **Windows** ® versions of ARTS PDF Crackerjack™. Wherever appropriate, the differences are clearly indicated. If ARTS PDF Crackerjack is used with Adobe ® Acrobat ® 5.05 in OS X there are other differences which are clearly indicated as applying only to OS X usage. This document specifically covers the features in ARTS PDF Crackerjack 4.x and its companion ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot, so it should not be used as a reference for earlier versions of the products.

ARTS PDF Crackerjack provides a set of professional output tools for PDF documents. With ARTS PDF Crackerjack, you can control all of the important output issues that distinguish pay-for-print from personal use. These include fine positioning, scaling, orientation, separations, screening, and more. With ARTS PDF Crackerjack, you can create PostScript files for downstream prepress applications or imagesetters, platemakers, digital presses, color printer/copiers, proofers, plotters, and film recorders. ARTS PDF Crackerjack is also handy for separating PDF files originally created with Microsoft applications such as Word, Publisher, and Excel, a particularly sticky problem for graphic arts service providers. With this release, ARTS PDF Crackerjack now also includes the ability to preview the separations that ARTS PDF Crackerjack can generate. This feature allows the user to check separations before printing them and to view the effects of prepress parameters such as overprinting. Additionally, ARTS PDF Crackerjack 4 still includes important features first introduced in ARTS PDF Crackerjack 3, such as, color management, black overprint, auto-size media selection, backgrounds, bleed support, and the ability to output PostScript 3 features, such as, duotones/tritones/quadtones, smooth shading, and spot color gradients.

ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot is an automation option for the award-winning ARTS PDF Crackerjack. With Pilot, you can create and manage one or more “hot folders” to automate your use of ARTS PDF Crackerjack. All of the features you use in ARTS PDF Crackerjack, including separations, screening, media selection, and more, can be saved in user-defined settings files and matched to hot folders. These settings files can be set up either for particular applications or print job classifications, or, for targeting output to different devices. Once configured, you only need to drop a PDF document into a hot folder for ARTS PDF Crackerjack and Pilot to pick it up and print it.

ARTS PDF Crackerjack and ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot may be used with the full version of Adobe Acrobat 5.0 or 6.0.

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3.0 ARTS PDF Crackerjack Setup

3.1 System Requirements

Regardless of platform, ARTS PDF Crackerjack requires that a PostScript printer/printer driver be selected before operation.

3.1.1 Macintosh

- PowerMacintosh G3 or G4
- System 9.2 or 10.2 or higher
- Adobe ® Acrobat ® 5.05 or higher
- Adobe ® PostScript ® (or 100% compatible) output device

3.1.2 Windows

- PC with Pentium processor
- Windows ® NT 4.0, Windows ® 2000 or Windows ® XP
- Adobe ® Acrobat ® 5.05 or higher
- Adobe ® PostScript ® (or 100% compatible) output device

CAUTION: Any folders or files which are created during installation are required by ARTS PDF Crackerjack. If you rename, move, or delete these folders the product will not work correctly or may not work at all.

3.2 Installation

In addition to the User's Guide, the ARTS PDF Crackerjack folder contains a file called ColorSteps.pdf to assist in color management, and a subfolder containing ARTS PDF Crackerjack default Color Sets.

On the **Macintosh** (except for OS X), ARTS PDF Crackerjack will use the system's Printer Descriptions folder for PPDs. For OS X, see the section on ARTS PDF Crackerjack Preferences for how to manage PPDs. The **Windows** installer will create a folder named "Printer Descriptions" inside the ARTS PDF Crackerjack folder and place PPDs for Acrobat Distiller in the folder. After installing ARTS PDF Crackerjack you must copy any PPD files for your devices to the Printer Descriptions folder. Failure to copy your PPD files to the Printer Descriptions folder will cause ARTS PDF Crackerjack to have only Acrobat Distiller PPDs available.

To validate the license and/or to view the installation status, open Acrobat and view the "About Plug-Ins" box (on the Apple logo pulldown menu on the **Macintosh**, at the bottom

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of the Acrobat Help pulldown menu in **Windows**) for “ARTS PDF Crackerjack 4...”. The word “Demo” appears in the ARTS PDF Crackerjack “About” box when the version is not fully licensed version. To validate your license, click on the “Register...” button, and then enter the serial number provided by ARTS PDF.

To deactivate the plug-in, move it and the ARTS PDF Crackerjack folder out of the Acrobat Plug-Ins folder before launching Acrobat.

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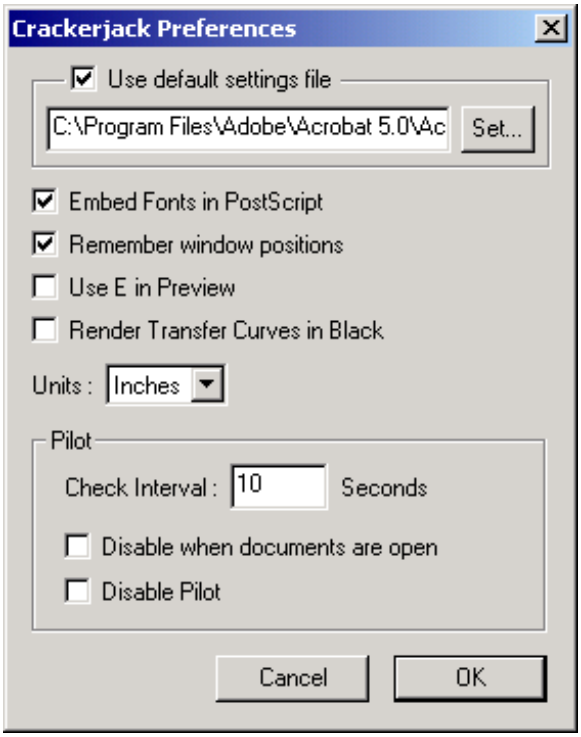
4.0 Using ARTS PDF Crackerjack

To use the software, select “ARTS PDF Crackerjack...” from the Acrobat “File” pulldown menu under “ARTS PDF Crackerjack->ARTS PDF Crackerjack 4...”. Alternatively, you can launch ARTS PDF Crackerjack using “keyboard shortcuts”. On the **Macintosh**, hold down the “Command” (Apple) and “Shift” keys and then press the “C” key. In **Windows**, hold down the “Ctrl” and “Shift” keys and then press the “C” key. You may also activate ARTS PDF Crackerjack by clicking on the “CJ” button on the Acrobat toolbar.

ARTS PDF Crackerjack will then display two windows. The “Preview” window gives a visual representation of how the PDF page will be printed on the media. The “ARTS PDF Crackerjack” window provides an interface organized by icons. Altering some of the entries in the ARTS PDF Crackerjack window will cause corresponding changes in the Preview window.

4.1 Preferences

ARTS PDF Crackerjack’s preferences are accessed from Acrobat’s menu. In Acrobat 4, this is done using “File->Preferences->ARTS PDF Crackerjack 4”. In Acrobat 5/6.0, use “Edit->Preferences->ARTS PDF Crackerjack 4”.



ARTS PDF Crackerjack Preferences

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4.1.1 Use default settings file

This control determines where ARTS PDF Crackerjack will get the default settings when it is launched for the first time during an Acrobat session or whenever the “Defaults” button is clicked. If left unchecked, ARTS PDF Crackerjack uses its internal defaults. The “Set...” button brings up a standard dialog for specifying a folder/file location to allow the user to specify the location and file name for ARTS PDF Crackerjack to use for its default settings.

Note: The user must first create a settings file to be used before setting this parameter.

4.1.2 Embed Fonts in PostScript

When this box is checked, ARTS PDF Crackerjack will verify that all fonts used in the document are embedded before printing. If any non-embedded fonts are found ARTS PDF Crackerjack will check the local hard disk for the fonts and automatically substitute them if possible. Otherwise the user will be prompted. See the section titled “Embedding Fonts” for details on this feature.

4.1.3 Remember window positions

This function will cause ARTS PDF Crackerjack to store the position of the Preview and main windows as they are moved. The positions are maintained between sessions. Unchecking this option causes the windows to revert to their default positions.

4.1.4 Use E in preview

Selecting this function causes ARTS PDF Crackerjack to display an “E” in the preview window instead of a thumbnail of the currently selected PDF page. The “E” represents the extent of the imageable data within the current PDF page. This function is useful when working with large PDF files which may cause slow redraw of thumbnails in the preview window.

4.1.5 Render Transfer Curves in Black

This allows the user to specify whether the transfer curves specified in ARTS PDF Crackerjack’s Color panel are displayed in color or in black.

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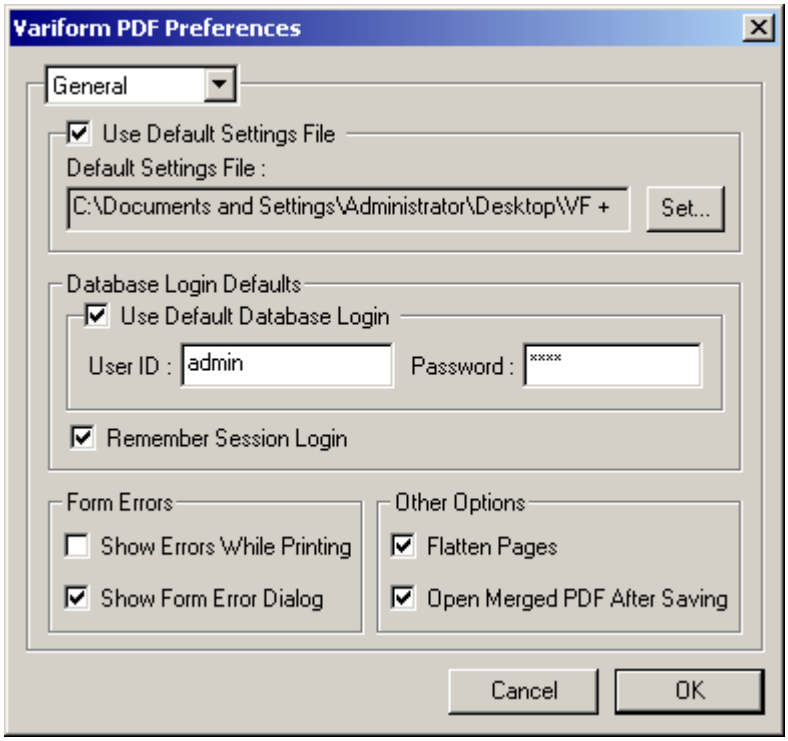
4.1.6 Units

This list allows for selection of inches, centimeters, millimeters, or points. This selection affects all units of measurement throughout ARTS PDF Crackerjack's panels.

4.1.7 Pilot

These settings control the functions of ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot.



- **Check interval**

Specified in seconds, this determines how often Pilot will "poll" its input folders to see if a PDF file has been delivered for processing.

- **Disable when documents are open**

This option prevents Pilot from taking control of Acrobat to process files while the user is currently working on a PDF document.

- **Disable Pilot**

Disables Pilot operation until the box is once again unchecked.

4.1.8 Select PPD folder (Mac OS X only)

Since OS X does not use the traditional Macintosh method of a Printer Descriptions folder you must select a folder on your hard disk where your PPD files are located so that ARTS PDF Crackerjack can use them.

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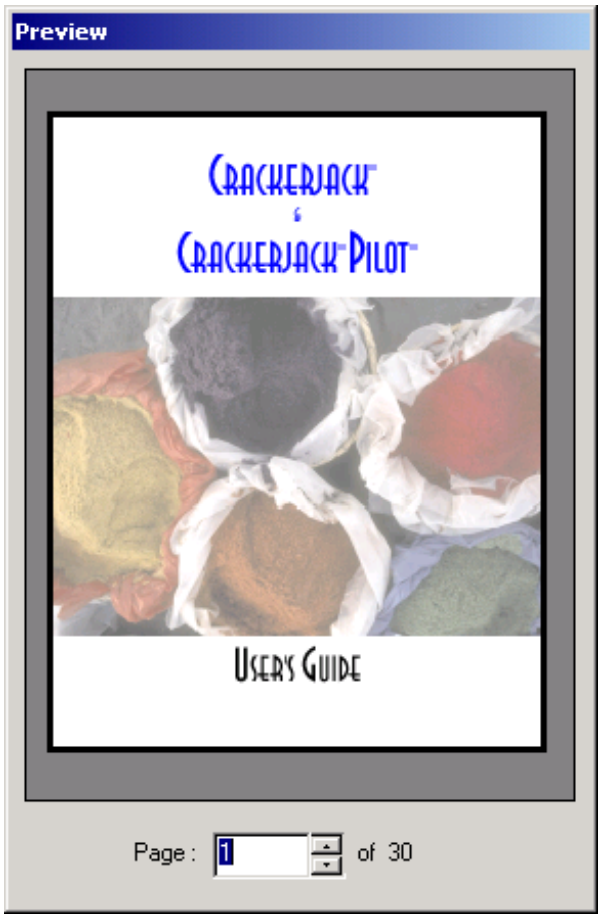
4.2 The “Preview” Window



Preview window

This window shows a representation of the page currently selected. It defaults to the page currently displayed in the Acrobat main window. In this window, the relationship of the imageable area, the PDF page and the media is displayed for the current selections for page size, media size, positioning, scaling, orientation, tiling and mirror and negative print.

The PDF page is centered in the window and is defined by the blue outline. The orientation of the PDF page is maintained as it is defined in the PDF document.

The white rectangular area represents the size of the selected media in the chosen orientation. If you change the orientation between “Portrait” and “Landscape”, the media is rotated, not the PDF page. If you select the “Rotate 90 degrees” function, both the PDF page and the media are rotated.

The imageable data on the page is presented in the preview. Depending on a “Preferences” setting, it is either shown as a scaled down version of the PDF page or as

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an “E” whose size represents the x-y extents of the imageable data on the selected page. A preview of a different page may be selected at the bottom of the preview window by either entering the desired page number in the fill-in box or by using the arrow keys. The down arrow corresponds to “page down” (higher page numbers), and vice versa.

When selected, Printer’s Marks are also displayed in this window along with the color bar, if it is enabled.

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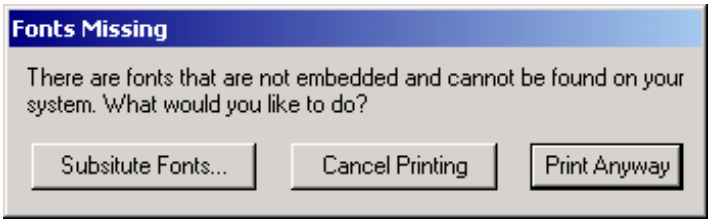
4.3 Embedding Fonts

If the preference for checking non-embedded fonts is enabled, ARTS PDF Crackerjack will verify that all fonts in the current document are embedded before printing. If ARTS PDF Crackerjack finds that a font is not embedded, but that it exists on the current system, it will print normally by including the system font in the output. If the non-embedded font cannot be found on the system, ARTS PDF Crackerjack will interrupt output to allow the user to make a decision on what to do.

When non-embedded fonts are found with no matching font on the system, ARTS PDF Crackerjack presents the user with the choices seen here.

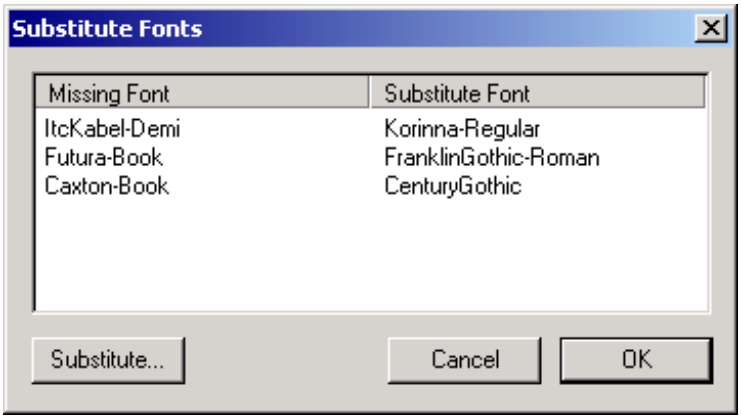

Fonts Missing
There are fonts that are not embedded and cannot be found on your system. What would you like to do?
Subsitute Fonts...
Cancel Printing
Print Anyway

Font Missing

“Cancel Printing” returns to ARTS PDF Crackerjack.

“Print Anyway” will cause the document to be printed and any objects using the non-embedded fonts may, or may not, print correctly.

If the user clicks “Substitute Fonts...” they will see a list of missing fonts.



List of missing fonts

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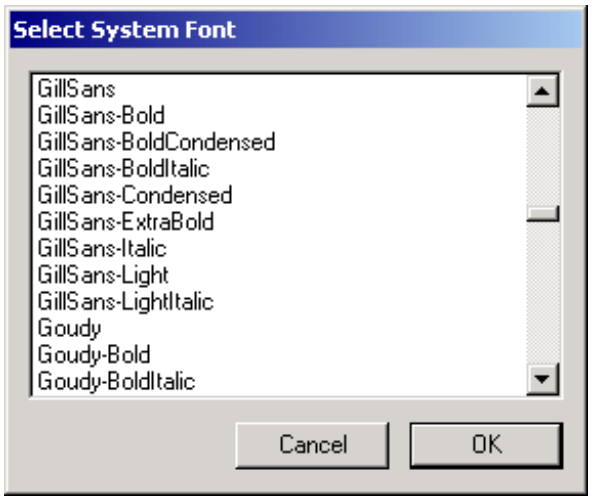
From the window showing the list of fonts clicking “Substitute...” will cause a list of all fonts on the system to be opened for selection.



List of Fonts on the system

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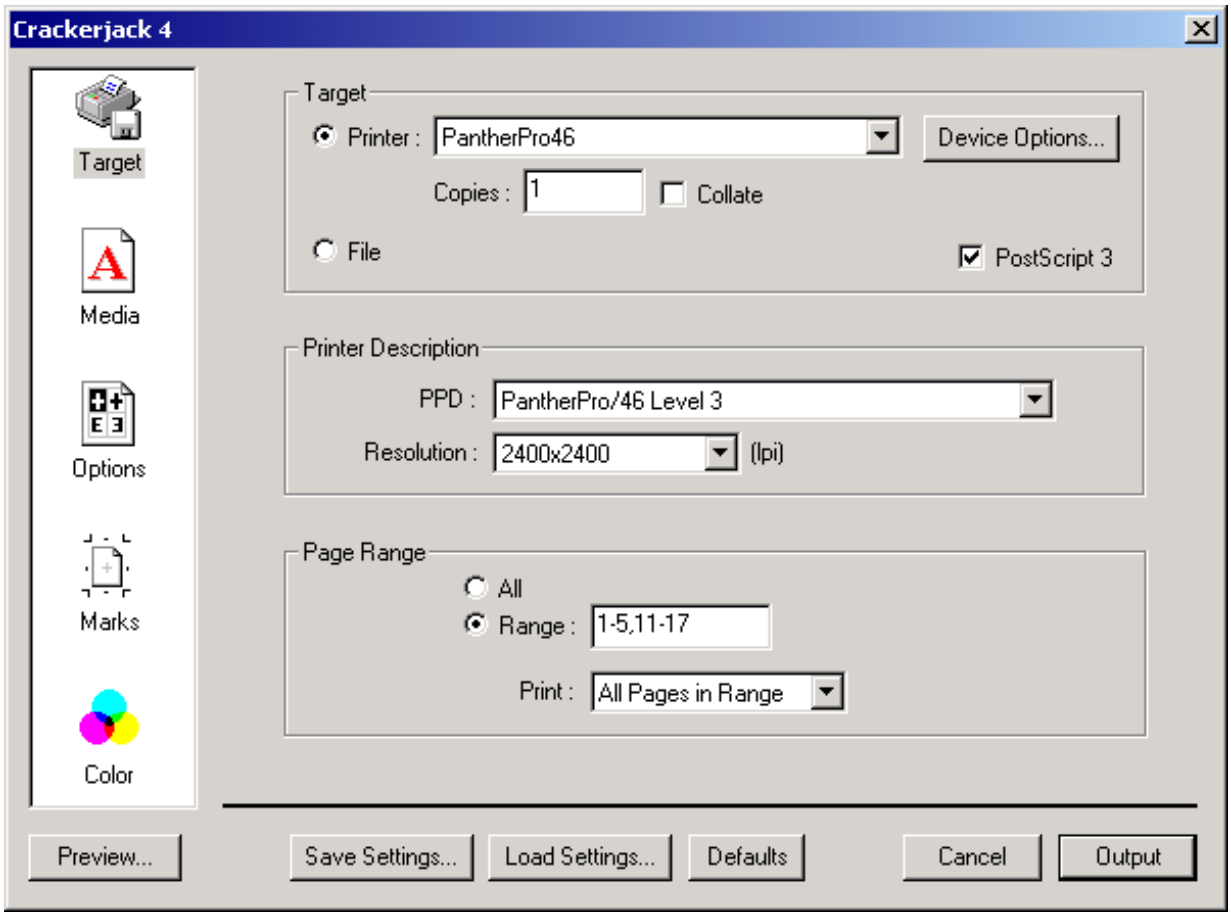
4.4 The “ARTS PDF Crackerjack” Window



The icons in this window provide professional user control over the printed output. There are currently five icons: Target, Media, Options, Marks, and Color. Clicking on each icon will display a “panel” where user selections can be made. The first time that you enter ARTS PDF Crackerjack all items on the various panels are prefilled with the ARTS PDF Crackerjack default selections. “Preview”, “Save Settings”, “Load Settings”, “Output”, “Cancel”, and “Defaults” options appear on all panels.

4.4.1 Preview

This button launches the print preview window. If one of the separation modes is selected in ARTS PDF Crackerjack the user can selectively disable/enabled inks to preview the effect of generating separations. Any settings currently enabled in ARTS PDF Crackerjack will be previewed here also. For example, if “All spots to process” has been selected in ARTS PDF Crackerjack, then the Preview will only show Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, and Black inks. See the section titled “The Print Preview Window” for more details.

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4.4.2 Save Settings..., Load Settings...

These buttons provide access to a standard folder/file selection mechanism. With this, you can save and name your ARTS PDF Crackerjack settings for each class of job that you routinely run. These predefined formats save you time, diminish the likelihood of error and its associated cost, and save you the trouble of re-experimenting to get jobs to come out the way you want. These settings files are also used by ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot, the production automation option for ARTS PDF Crackerjack.

Save Settings may be used to alter the entire set of default settings used when ARTS PDF Crackerjack is launched or when the “Defaults” button is selected. See “Defaults” (below).

4.4.3 Defaults

Clicking Defaults returns all parameters back to the “default” values. See “Preferences>Use Default Settings File” to change the defaults settings for ARTS PDF Crackerjack.

4.4.4 Cancel

Cancel causes an exit from ARTS PDF Crackerjack and return of control to Acrobat. No output file is generated, and any settings changes are discarded.

4.4.5 OK/Output

If no document is open in Acrobat the button will read “OK”, otherwise it will read “Output”. The Output button causes ARTS PDF Crackerjack to print the job to either the printer or a file, depending on the selection made in the Target panel. After printing the ARTS PDF Crackerjack dialog will close, and control will be returned to Acrobat. As long as the current session of Acrobat is running. ARTS PDF Crackerjack will remember the settings from the last job. If you quit Acrobat the current ARTS PDF Crackerjack settings will be discarded. The next time Acrobat and ARTS PDF Crackerjack are launched, ARTS PDF Crackerjack will start with the settings from the defaults file, if it exists, or its internal defaults.

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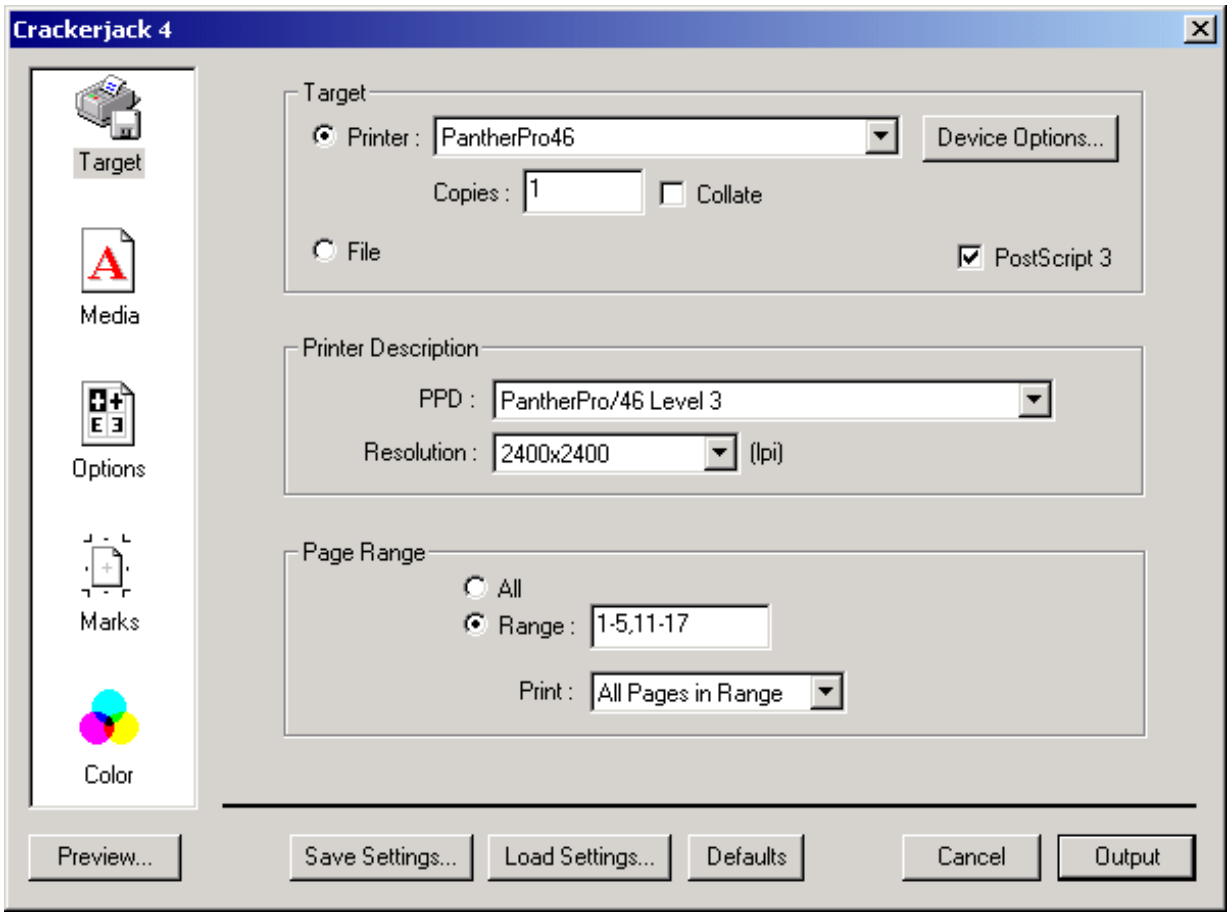
4.5 The “Target” Panel



The Target panel allows selection of high-level job parameters. It also provides controls for the ARTS PDF Crackerjack environment.

The entire set of ARTS PDF Crackerjack values can be managed using the “Defaults”, “Load Settings” and “Save Settings” buttons.

The remaining items on the Target panel relate to parameters to be used for the print job.

4.5.1 Printer

By choosing Printer, you are indicating to ARTS PDF Crackerjack that you want to create a PostScript file and send it to the indicated output device. On the **Macintosh**, if there is no defaults settings file, ARTS PDF Crackerjack’s default is the printer currently selected in “Chooser”. Pressing the “Set...” button will launch “Chooser” and allow you to select a different device. You may then save this in your ARTS PDF Crackerjack Preferences as the default, or in another ARTS PDF Crackerjack settings file. In **OS X** there is no “Set... button. There will be a list of printers already installed through the

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OS X Print Center. In **Windows**, with no default settings file, ARTS PDF Crackerjack's default is the default printer in your **Windows** "Printers" folder. You may choose from any printer in the drop-down list and subsequently save it in your ARTS PDF Crackerjack defaults, or in another ARTS PDF Crackerjack settings file.

Note: that on either system, you must also change your PPD in ARTS PDF Crackerjack when choosing a different printer. When you make a printer selection, ARTS PDF Crackerjack has all the information it needs to print. There is no need to select "Setup" in the "Chooser" menu or "Page Setup" in Acrobat.

- **Copies**

This field allows specification of the number of copies to be printed. The default is one copy.

- **Collate**

If the number of Copies is greater than one, this option is made available. If the box is checked, ARTS PDF Crackerjack performs software collation. If the selected device supports a hardware collator, the user may choose to use that option instead by selecting it from the Advanced Device Options (see below). Hardware collation will only be available if it is a supported option within the currently selected PPD.

- **Device options**

ARTS PDF Crackerjack supports many traditional device options in a device independent way. For example, collation, negative and mirror print, separations, and screening are often treated as device options in other applications. ARTS PDF Crackerjack supports selected device options from the currently selected PPD.

  - **Basic**

    The initial list of device options includes input trays which are specified in the currently selected PPD. If the PPD indicates that the device supports duplexing, this option will also appear.

  - **Advanced**

    Clicking the Advanced... button will display an extended list of device-specific features defined in the PPD.

Note: that many advanced options, such as separations, specialized halftone screening, etc. may conflict with choices made in ARTS PDF Crackerjack. Selecting these options may cause unpredictable output results.

4.5.2 File

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By choosing File, you are indicating to ARTS PDF Crackerjack that you want the output to be saved in a PostScript file. When the Output button is selected, the standard system folder/file selection/naming mechanism is displayed. The file will be saved as PostScript Level 2 unless the “PostScript 3” box is checked. ARTS PDF Crackerjack creates PostScript files containing all of the information for the currently specified pages.

4.5.3 PostScript 3

When checked, all output from ARTS PDF Crackerjack will contain PostScript 3 specific operators.

Note: Using this option with non-PostScript 3 devices may cause errors or no output.

4.5.4 Printer description

- **PPD (PostScript Printer Description)**

This scroll list allows for selection of the PostScript printer description file to be used when ARTS PDF Crackerjack creates a PostScript file. ARTS PDF Crackerjack makes use of some of the information in the PPD file. This includes device resolutions, supported media sizes, and screening frequencies and angles for the selected device resolution. On the **Macintosh**, if there is no defaults settings file, the initial PPD default is that chosen for the printer in “Chooser”. In **OS X** the PPD list is either the default list from the OS (which cannot be modified) or the list from the folder selected in your ARTS PDF Crackerjack preferences. In **Windows**, with no default settings file, the initial default PPD is the first file name in the “Printer Descriptions” folder as if sorted alphabetically by file name.

- **Resolution**

For devices with multi-resolution capability as specified in the PPD, this scroll list allows selection of the device Resolution to be used when printing. The selected value is also used to select an optimized screen set (Frequency and Angle) for the selected resolution. Resolution is always specified in dots per inch (dpi). The default resolution is the resolution defined as “default” in the PPD.

4.5.5 Page range

This option allows the user to specify the pages to be included in the output. You can select either “All” pages or a page “Range”. If there is no defaults settings file, the first time ARTS PDF Crackerjack is invoked for a new document the Page range will be set to “All”.

Additional options are available in the drop-down list for further specifying which pages are to be output. The choices are: All pages in range, Odd pages, or Even pages. Odd

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and Even can be used in combination with “All” to output all odd pages or all even pages.

When “Range” is selected you may enter specific page numbers or page ranges. A page range must have a hyphen between the beginning and ending page numbers (i.e. 3-7 to print pages 3 through 7). Commas and spaces serve as separators between page numbers (i.e. 3-7, 8-11 to print pages 3 through 7 and 8 through 11). Pages will print in the order specified. Ranges with a higher beginning page number than ending page number will print in reverse numerical order.

Note: that page numbers are the physical pages of the PDF, which may not correspond to page numbers, if any, which are in the PDF document or displayed in Acrobat.

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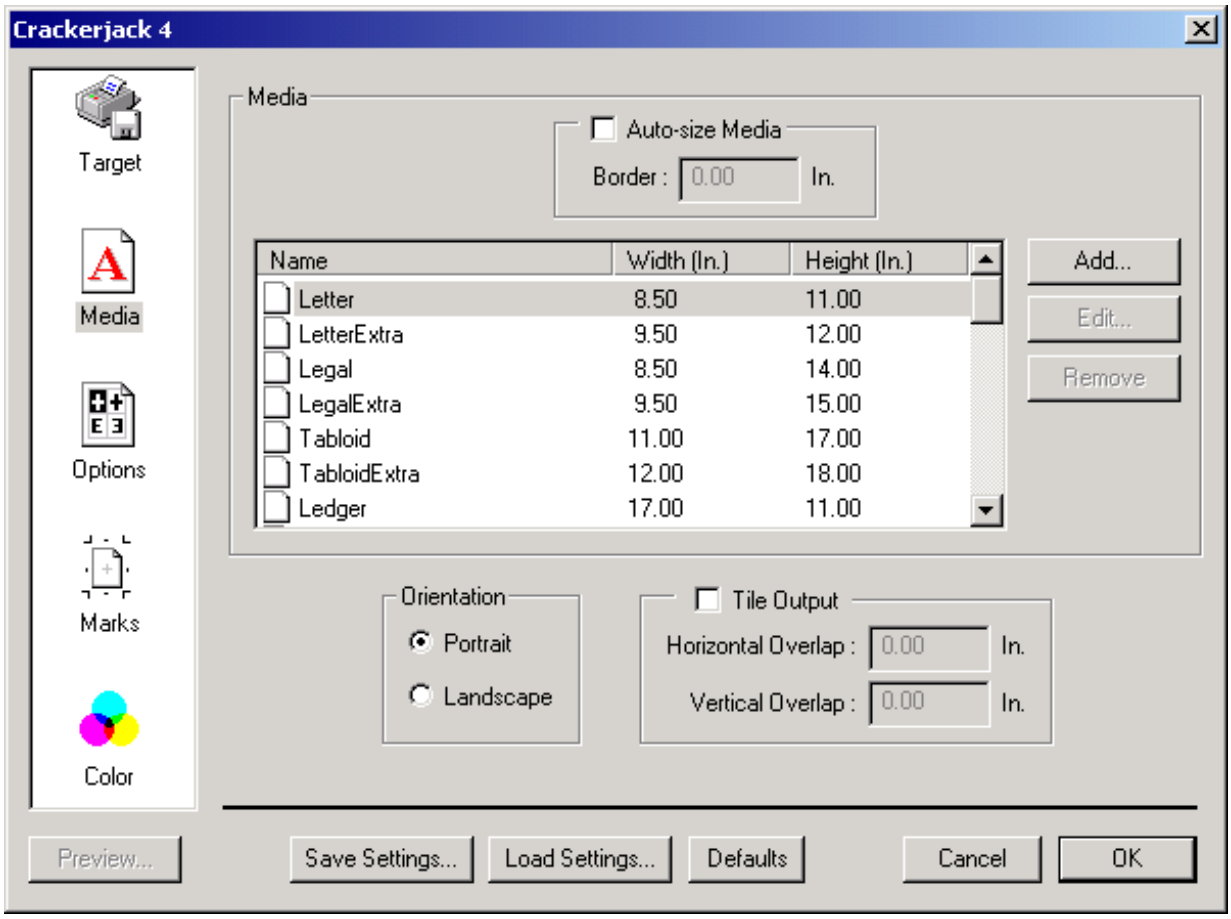
4.6 The “Media” Panel



This panel allows for media selection and provides some of the parameters for how the PDF page will be placed on the media.

4.6.1 Auto-size media

When this box is checked, ARTS PDF Crackerjack will automatically set a media size which matches the current PDF page size plus any extra amounts specified by the “Border” parameter. Checking this box causes the list of media sizes in the Media box to become disabled. If a multi-page PDF document contains different page sizes and/or orientations, ARTS PDF Crackerjack will adjust the media size for each page during output. This feature is particularly useful when ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot is used, since you need not create multiple Pilot folders to accommodate different media sizes.

Note: Using this feature with devices such as desktop laser printers, which do not support custom media sizes, may cause PostScript errors. Ensure that the PDF document page size(s) are supported by your device before enabling Auto-size Media.

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- **Border**

With Auto-size Media selected, this function allows the user to specify how much additional margin should be added to each page on output. The specified value will be added to all four sides of each page. This is useful for accommodating ARTS PDF Crackerjack's Printer's Marks.

4.6.2 Media

This scroll list allows for the selection of the media size to be used. This list is taken from the currently selected PPD. Therefore, the name and dimensions shown for each media size may be specific to the device for which that PPD was written.

The selected media size is used in display of the "Preview" window and any generated output file.

- **Add.../Edit.../Remove...**

These buttons allow the user to define and update custom media sizes. Using this feature, you can specify a name and the dimensions for any unique media. Care should be taken when using this since some PostScript devices can only take predefined media. Some PostScript devices will generate a PostScript error for a media size it doesn't recognize, and it is possible to specify a size that violates the devices minimum and maximum size restrictions.

Note: The media sizes taken from the currently selected PPD cannot be edited or removed from the list.

4.6.3 Orientation

This option allows for a change in the media orientation. Upon entering ARTS PDF Crackerjack, the Orientation is reflected in the Preview window.

You may switch between orientations by clicking on the appropriate button. The change is reflected in both the Preview window and in the commands included in the output file. In the Preview window, when the orientation is changed, the media is rotated, not the PDF page. The commands in the output file produce the same net effect on the printed output regardless of which edge of the PDF page is output first.

Note: Orientation should be used to cause the media to align with the PDF page as displayed in the Preview window. To obtain rotated output, sometimes called "transverse" or "media saving", use the "Rotate 90 degrees" feature on ARTS PDF Crackerjack's Options panel.

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4.6.4 Tile Output

When a PDF document's page size is larger than the available media size(s) on an output device, this option can be useful for printing the job across multiple pages which can then be combined to see the entire print job. This option would normally be used to check, or proof, output on a desktop laser printer for a job which is intended to be run on a large format device for final output. Another application might be tiling different sections for billboards or theatrical scenery. When this option is selected ARTS PDF Crackerjack's Preview window will display a representation of the tiled output.

- **Horizontal Overlap / Vertical Overlap**

When "Tile Output" is selected the additional option to specify horizontal and vertical overlap are made available. Overlap is generally used so that portions of each tile will overlap the neighboring tile(s). This is helpful when printing to desktop laser printers which usually have some unprintable region on the page edges. With overlap the output can be aligned so that all data is visible.

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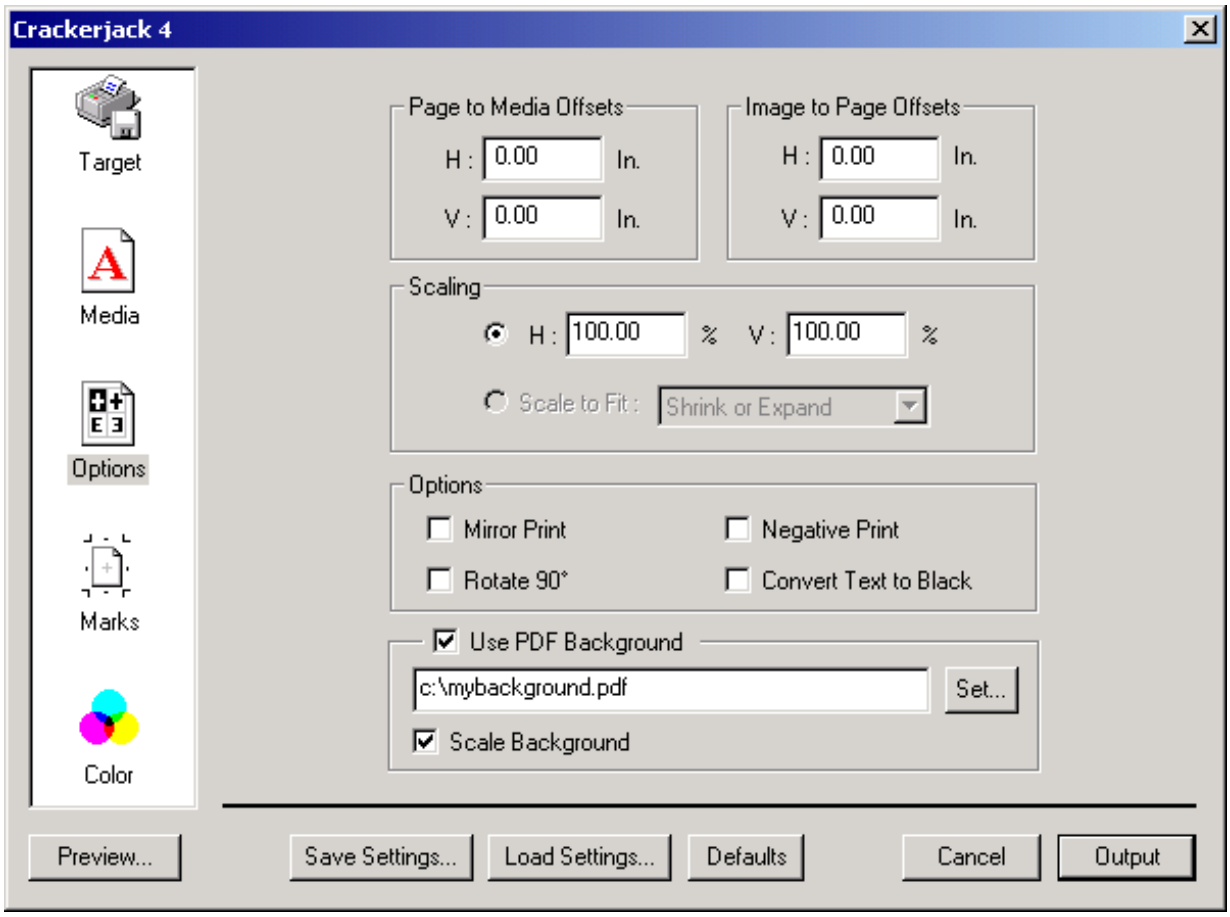
4.7 The “Options” Panel



This panel allows for setting certain options which affect how the printed output will appear

4.7.1 Offsets

These options allow for the repositioning of the PDF page on the media and the repositioning of the imageable area on the PDF page, both either vertically or horizontally. Positive offsets move the PDF page up or to the right. Negative offsets move the PDF page down or to the left. The initial offset defaults are zero. The offsets may be specified in inches, centimeters, millimeters, or points depending on the Units selection. Offsets are applied after scaling. As such, it is recommended that one consider the offsets as moving the center of the PDF page or imageable area to the new location.

- **Page to media**

Often, it is necessary to reposition the PDF page on the media. For example, if the default positioning places the page in an unprintable area used for media transport, the

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page should be moved so that the information is not clipped. This Page to Media offset option allows for the repositioning of the page on the media. The offsets may allow some or all of the PDF page to be moved off the media. These offset changes are reflected in both the Preview window and in the PostScript output. If Printer's Marks are selected, they will also be moved accordingly.

- **Image to page**

Occasionally, the repositioning capability provided above is still insufficient for the application. An example of this is trying to reposition data for the printing of right and left pages with center binding or hole punching. The ability to move just the imageable data while not altering the page position on the media is required. Unlike PostScript, PDF pages allow for this type of manipulation, and ARTS PDF Crackerjack supports this. This Image Area to Page offset option allows for the repositioning of the imageable area with respect to the PDF page. The offsets may allow some or all of the data to be moved off the page. The offset changes are reflected in the both the Preview window and in the PostScript output.

Note: If Printer's Marks are selected, they will **not** be affected by "Image to page" offsets.

4.7.2 Scaling

Scaling increases or decreases the size of the PDF page. The initial ARTS PDF Crackerjack default for scaling is 100%. For the purposes of scaling, the origin is the center of the PDF page. Scaling is applied to the PDF page before offsets. Based on these two factors, it is recommended that one consider the offsets as moving the center of the PDF page or imageable area to the new location. Either Scale to Fit or Horizontal/Vertical Scaling may be applied at any one time, but not both simultaneously. The changes implied by scaling are reflected in the Preview window and in any ARTS PDF Crackerjack generated PostScript file.

- **Horizontal/Vertical**

You may select independent horizontal and vertical scaling factors to be applied to the PDF pages. Input is limited to eight characters including the decimal separator. Even though four digits may be entered to the right of the decimal separator, only the three most significant are retained. With the maximum and minimum page sizes allowed in PDF, this provides ample room to scale the PostScript output to exceedingly large or small formats. Large output might have to be tiled due to media size restrictions on the output device.

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Scale to fit

Selecting this option provides three choices for scaling. “Shrink or expand” means that the page will automatically be scaled either up or down to fit the currently selected media size. “Shrink only” will cause the page to be scaled down only if it is necessary to fit a media size that is smaller than the PDF page. “Expand only” will cause the page to be scaled up only if it is necessary to fit a media size that is larger than the PDF page. Regardless of scaling method, the perspective of the original PDF page is always maintained, that is, horizontal and vertical dimensions are scaled by the same amount.

4.7.3 Options

- **Mirror print**

This option allows you to invert the printing direction. To access this function click on the box. In the Preview Window this is represented as a mirror image. This option is useful for transfer processes and certain plate making approaches.

- **Negative print**

This option allows you to enable “reverse” printing. To access this function click on the box. In the Preview Window, this is represented by changing the color contents from positive to negative which often means that the PDF page outline changes from blue to yellow, the media background changes from white to black, and the “E”, if present, changes from black to white. This option is provided to accommodate both positive-acting and negative-acting printing processes.

- **Rotate 90 degrees**

Selecting this option will cause the output, both media and PDF page, to be rotated by 90 degrees clockwise. This function is also known as “transverse” printing or “media saving”.

Note: that this option is typically only used for devices such as imagesetters that use wide media.

- **Convert Text To Black**

When selected this option will cause ALL text objects in the PDF document to be converted to process black on output.

4.7.4 Use PDF Background

When this box is checked the user can select a PDF document to be used as a background when printing the current document. The selected PDF will be printed behind all objects on the page(s). It will also be centered on the output page(s). This feature is useful for things like watermarking output and custom color bars/trim marks.

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- **Scale Background**

When this box is checked the PDF document used as a background will be scaled to the same size as the PDF document being printed. When the box is not checked the background page will be printed at its original size, whether larger or smaller than the document being printed. However, if the background page is larger than the media size selected in ARTS PDF Crackerjack it will be cut off at the extent of the media.

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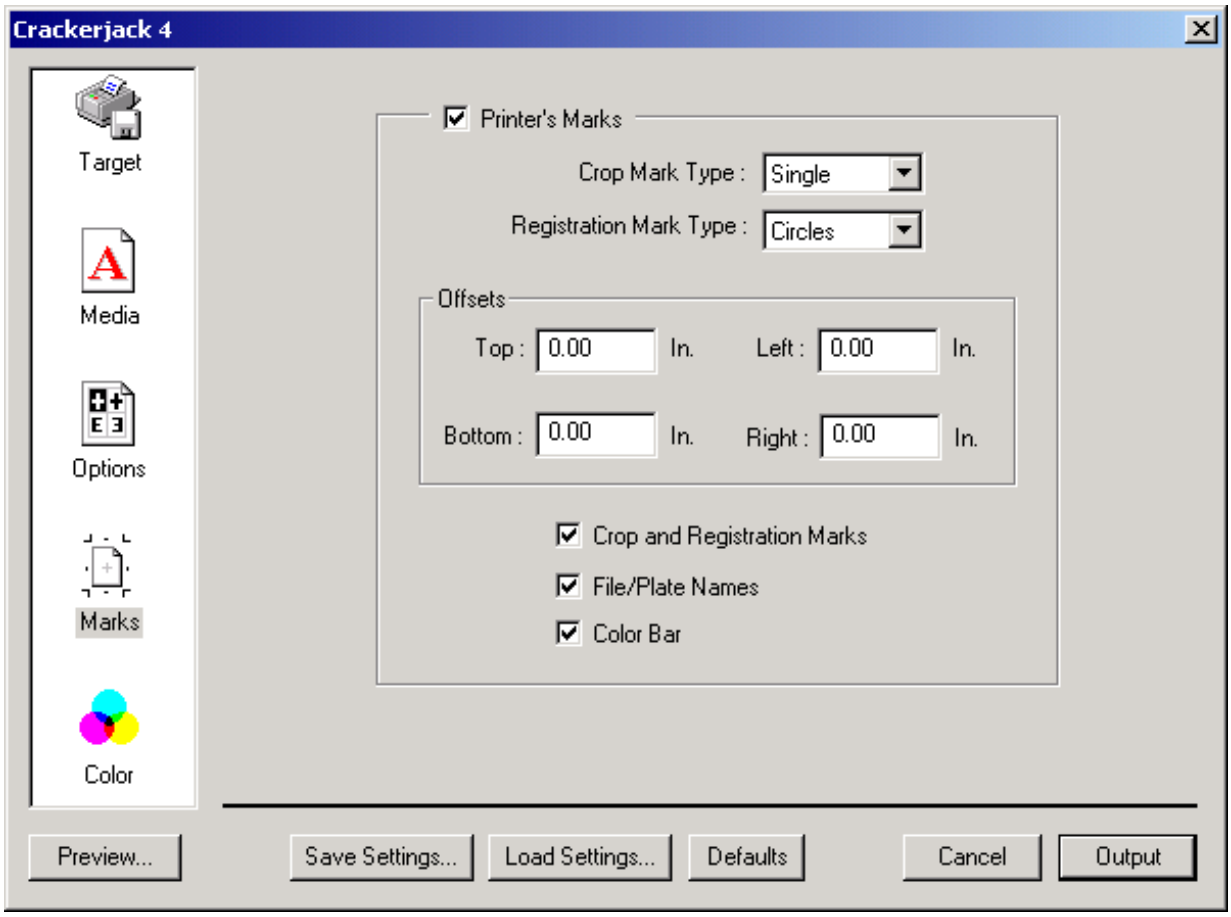
4.8 The “Marks” Panel



The Marks panel allows for the selection of the remaining parameters that determine how the output will appear.

4.8.1 Printer’s marks

This option turns on a number of items that are useful for print production. These items are printed outside the PDF page. They add approximately 0.5 inches to each side. To ensure that these items are visible, choose a media size that is approximately one inch larger both vertically and horizontally than the PDF page size. To access this function, click on the box, and a check mark will appear.

- **Crop mark type**

User selectable choice of single or double crop marks.

- **Registration mark type**

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User selectable choice of concentric circles or cross style registration marks.

- **Offsets**

Allows the user to specify the position of crop and registration marks for each of the four sides of the page. This feature is useful in adjusting the crop marks for bleeds.

4.8.2 Crop and registration marks

This check box determines whether the crop and registration marks are included in the output. This box is disabled if “Printer’s Marks” is not checked.

The default position for crop marks corresponds to the PDF TrimBox, if it exists, otherwise to the PDF CropBox.

4.8.3 File/Plate names

This check box determines whether the PDF file name and color separation plate names are included in the output. This box is disabled if “Printers Marks” is not checked.

4.8.4 Color bar

This option includes a color bar on the printed output. A predefined color bar is included with ARTS PDF Crackerjack. This box is disabled if “Printer’s Marks” is not checked.

ARTS PDF Crackerjack's color bar contains measurement squares of approximately 5 mm on a side for cyan, magenta, yellow, and black at 5%, 25%, 50%, 75%, 95%, and 100%, totaling about 5 inches in length. The color bar does not get scaled. The color bar is positioned approximately one-quarter inch from the corner of the PDF page along the long axis.

Note: To use a color bar of your own design, create a PDF page containing your color bar and use it as a background when printing from ARTS PDF Crackerjack. See Use PDF Background for more information.

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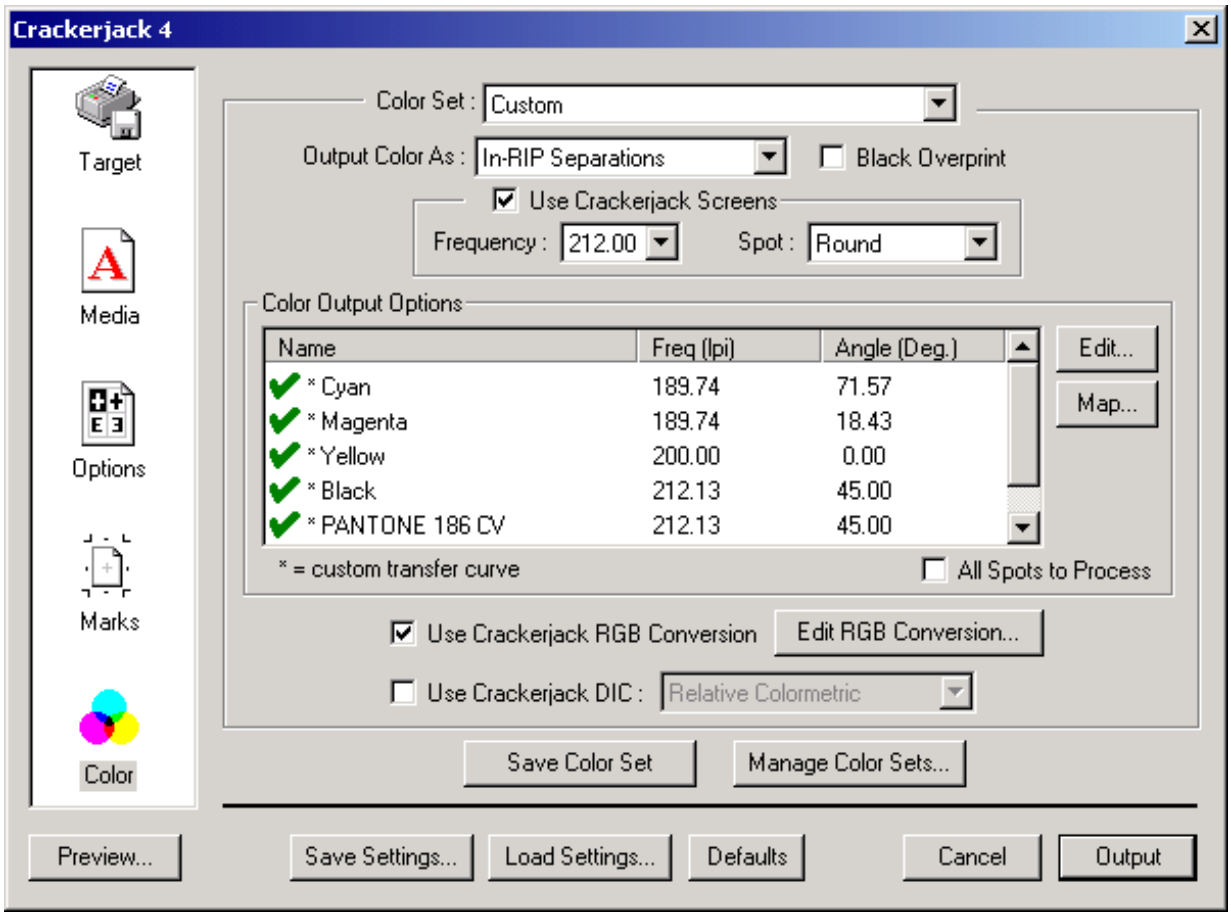
4.9 The “Color” Panel



The Color panel provides options to control the color rendition of the output. This panel also provides access to controls for Separations and Screening. Most of ARTS PDF Crackerjack’s settings may be deselected, allowing the user to rely on their RIP’s defaults.

4.9.1 Color set

This is a scrollable list where the user may choose stored custom color settings. A color set is a predefined selection for those parameters on and related to the Color panel. The default entry is “Custom”. If you choose a Color set and then change one or more of the color parameters, this field will revert to “Custom”

ARTS PDF Crackerjack ships with some sample Color sets. These reflect industry standard settings for dot gain for different types of printing, on different paper stocks and at specific line screen frequencies. These should be considered as “starter” sets. You may want to improve them for known print conditions. To assist you with this process,

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ARTS PDF Crackerjack includes ColorSteps.pdf as part of the release. This document contains known color values as defined in Acrobat. This document may be printed successively with ARTS PDF Crackerjack, CMYK and spot ink percentages measured, and ARTS PDF Crackerjack transfer functions adjusted until measured percentages match the values in the document. Also, the RGB values may be used to fine tune ARTS PDF Crackerjack's RGB conversion (GCR (black generation) and UCR). If you will be delivering PostScript files to a location whose print conditions are not known or not fingerprinted, you may want to apply no transfer functions and rely on capabilities at the destination to compensate for their local dot gain.

4.9.2 Output color as

This list allows the user to select from among the four types of ARTS PDF Crackerjack output. The choices are: In-RIP separations, Pre-separated, Composite color, or Composite gray.

When either In-RIP or Pre-separated are chosen additional controls become available. Choosing separations provides access to an ink table containing a list of the standard process colors (cyan, magenta, yellow, and black) plus any spot colors that have been included in the PDF document. The default is to print all inks. You can click on any of the list entries to select that color (indicated by highlighting). To deselect/select an ink, click on the check mark next to its name. To set/review its screening settings and transfer function or, in the case of spot colors, review their equivalent CMYK values, double-click on the ink name or click "Edit". When separations are selected, you can also select the Black overprint and global spot to process options, review/change UCR/GCR generation for RGB color conversion to DeviceCMYK, and select/reset ARTS PDF Crackerjack's device independent color rendering for the job.

- **In-RIP separations**

This is the preferred method of generating separations from ARTS PDF Crackerjack. Files are smaller, thus transmission, interpretation and rendering are significantly faster than pre-separated output. When selected, composite color data will be separated into CMYK data using PostScript in-RIP separation capability. Unless instructed otherwise elsewhere, spot colors are treated as individual separations.

Some desktop printers with PostScript 3 are capable of doing in-RIP separations. If you are experiencing difficulties, it may be due to memory limitations in the printer. This can be verified by sending the job to the RIP with only one ink selected. If successful, you can try it with two inks selected, etc. to determine your practical limits. This can help you determine how much memory you might consider adding.

- **Pre-separated**

Pre-separated is the preferred method to ensure that the output matches the "Print Preview" window.

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This method should also be used for desktop printers which are incapable of in-RIP separations. The features available using this option are similar to In-RIP separations.

Note: PDF files containing RGB data must have the data converted to CMYK before pre-separated output can occur. ARTS PDF Crackerjack performs this conversion automatically, but because of the amount of data to be converted, files containing RGB images may take considerable time to process.

- **Composite color**

Selecting this option will cause composite color data in the PDF document to remain as composite color data in the PostScript file. Pre-separated PDF pages will remain separated. Composite color files are useful for output to certain printers, proofers, slide makers, film recorders, and downstream prepress applications.

Choosing Composite for monochrome devices will cause the color data to be printed based on its luminance values. For those devices that are halftone devices, the RIP will also screen the output.

- **Composite gray**

Selecting this option will cause composite color data in the PDF document to be output as composite gray data in the PostScript file. Composite gray output is useful for black and white or grayscale devices.

4.9.3 Black overprint

Regardless of the creator application, even with correct Acrobat Distiller settings, “overprints” are not consistently preserved in composite color PDF files unless a custom color (spot color) is used for objects to be overprinted.

When selected, this feature causes ARTS PDF Crackerjack to find all text, graphics, and line art which are defined as 100% K in CMYK, 0% in RGB, and/or 100% “black” in DeviceGray. ARTS PDF Crackerjack will then print these objects on the black separation without knocking out the underlying object(s) on the other separations.

Note: This feature is only available when one of the separation modes is selected. It does not affect images.

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4.9.4 Use ARTS PDF Crackerjack screens

This check box determines whether the screening settings specified in ARTS PDF Crackerjack will be used on output. If unchecked the values currently set in the device will be used.

These options provide control over halftone screening. Not only do they apply to separated data, but also to composite output on halftoning devices. Typically, the default Frequency is that optimized for the selected Resolution as specified in the PPD. To implement these capabilities in a fashion independent of RIP vendor, ARTS PDF Crackerjack relies on Adobe Accurate Screens, another standard feature of PostScript. Alternative RIP technology vendors, such as Harlequin, automatically substitute their versions of screening.

- **Frequency**

This drop-down list displays the line-screen frequency values from the currently selected PPD. The list will vary depending on the resolution selected.

- **Spot function**

This option provides a choice of different spot functions that might be used to provide different “look and feel” to your printed document. Round and Diamond spots are probably the two most commonly used.

The spot function list does not contain casual selections. This is the list of spot functions supported by Adobe's Portable Document Format Reference Manual, i.e., the PDF specification. This means that these are also the spot functions used by Distiller when it translates PostScript screening information into embedded screen sets within a PDF document. Additionally, these are either standard spot functions defined for Adobe Accurate Screens or ones that are transparently supported by Accurate Screens.

4.9.5 Color output options

The outstanding feature of this section is the “inks list” table. By (un)checking the user may select which separations will output. If ARTS PDF Crackerjack screening is not used, the frequency and angle values for the inks will be “default”, that is, the values pre-set in the RIP will be used. If ARTS PDF Crackerjack screening is selected, then the frequency, angle, and transfer function may be altered.

- **Name**

When one of the separation types is selected, this list displays all ink names in the PDF file. If separations are not chosen, the list shows only “Composite”. Inks may be selected/deselected individually by clicking on the check mark next to the ink name. If expected spot color inks do not appear in this list, then the PDF was created incorrectly.

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Note: An asterisk (*) appearing next to an ink name indicates that a custom transfer function has been applied to that ink.

- **Frequency**

This list displays the line-screen frequency value for each ink name. Unless edited (see below), the values are derived from the currently selected PPD.

- **Angle**

This list displays the screen angle value for each ink name. As with frequencies, unless edited (see below), the values are derived from the currently selected PPD.

4.9.6 Edit...

This button activates a dialog box where values for frequency, angle and transfer function can be edited for each color in the inks list. For spot colors, CMYK equivalents are display and the user may elect to convert this spot color to process on an individual basis.

- **Frequency**

Initially, this box will display the value from the PPD for the currently selected ink name, Resolution, and Frequency as specified on the Color panel. This value may be changed, but ARTS PDF Crackerjack does nothing to ensure that the new value is valid for the target RIP.

- **Angle**

Initially, this box will display the value from the PPD for the currently selected ink name, Resolution, and Frequency as specified on the Color panel. This value may be changed, but ARTS PDF Crackerjack does nothing to ensure that the new value is valid for the target RIP.

- **Use custom transfer function**

When this box is checked, the user can click on “Transfer function...”. This will display a dialog where the user may enter values to specify a custom transfer curve for the selected ink color. This transfer function will be used for all data in the job that halftoned to this separation.

- **Convert to process**

When this box is checked, color information for this spot color only will be converted to process color and appear on the appropriate CMYK plates.

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4.9.7 Map...

This button activates a dialog box where spot colors can be mapped to the selected spot color. The button will only be active when more than one spot color exists in the current PDF document. To use spot color mapping, select the color that you want other spot colors to be mapped **TO**, then click Map.

Mapped spot colors can also be un-mapped. Once a color has been mapped it will appear in the inks list with a blue dot next to its name. Spot colors which have other spot colors mapped to them will appear normally in the inks list.

4.9.8 All Spots to process

When checked, ARTS PDF Crackerjack will generate PostScript output with all the spot color(s) in the job mapped into the appropriate percentages of Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black.

4.9.9 Use ARTS PDF Crackerjack RGB conversion

When checked, this function causes ARTS PDF Crackerjack's RGB conversion settings to be applied to the output.

- **Edit RGB Conversion...**

This option allows you to specify your own functions for UCR or GCR. UCR and GCR controls apply to the conversion of RGB data to DeviceCMYK.

Gray Component Replacement (GCR) is the substitution of black ink in areas where the other three process inks overlap. This makes sense since the addition of a third process ink only adds "grayness" to the other two, and black ink is usually less expensive.

Under Color Removal (UCR) is a compensation for not having perfect inks, i.e., those that are monochromatic. These impurities have their greatest effect in shadow areas and neutral colors. Their removal tends to add depth.

Of the two approaches, and all else being equal, GCR uses more black ink and less cyan, magenta, and yellow than UCR. Refer to the Adobe Photoshop Users Guide for usage guidelines. Save and Load options allow you to save, name, and reuse your favorite settings.

ARTS PDF Crackerjack's default is set to GCR=Maximum to constrain RGB black to the process black plate. Otherwise, text defined as RGB black will appear on all process plates.

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- **Image Conversion**

  New in ARTS PDF Crackerjack 4 is the ability to handle the RGB to DeviceCMYK conversion of images separately from other objects in the PDF.

  Selecting “Standard” will cause all RGB images to be converted to CMYK using the Adobe PostScript “Red Book” algorithm, less any UCR/GCR.

  Selecting “Use UCR/GCR” will apply the current UCR/GCR settings.

  Choosing “Use ICC Profile” allows the user to select the Source (RGB) color profile and the Destination (CYMK) profile to control conversion of images from RGB to CMYK. On the **Macintosh**, ICC profile management is done by the OS, so list selections are controlled by ColorSync. In **Windows** there is a folder named “ICC Profiles” located inside the ARTS PDF Crackerjack folder of your Acrobat plug-ins folder. Several default ICC profiles are put in this folder during installation. If you wish to use other profiles they must be copied into this folder.

Note: If there are images within a PDF which are tagged with an ICC profile, ARTS PDF Crackerjack will use the input (source) profile associated with each image instead of the one selected in ARTS PDF Crackerjack.

4.9.10 Use ARTS PDF Crackerjack DIC (Device Independent Color)

This selection has an effect only when “Use ARTS PDF Crackerjack DIC” is chosen. It only maps device independent color data. DeviceRGB, DeviceGray, and DeviceCMYK color space data are not affected by this option. If it is known that this PDF document was prepared in a color managed environment where the application of specific color rendering intents might have been assigned to different objects, then you should consider not using this selection.

Beginning with version 2015, all Adobe PostScript RIPs support the International Color Consortium concept of standard color rendering intents. This option allows you to select the color rendering that is appropriate for the subject material. This approach is consistent with Apple's ColorSync and Window’s ICM device independent color management.

There are four predefined renderings: Relative Colormetric, Perceptual, Saturation, and Absolute Colormetric. You would probably select Relative Colormetric or Perceptual for image or picture intensive files. Saturation would be most appropriate for documents with a lot of business graphics (bar and pie charts). Even though Absolute Colormetric often truncates out of gamut colors, it might be most appropriate for situations where you must reproduce a color exactly, such as a shirt color in a catalogue or the logo color for an important client.

Within the RIP, each of these Color Rendering Intents has the effect of mapping all the ICC color data (LAB, CalRGB, CalGray) through a PostScript Color Rendering Dictionary (CRD). In theory, there should be a different CRD for each rendering intent.

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But in some devices, more than one Color Rendering Intent may be mapped into a single CRD.

4.9.11 Save color set...

This button activates a dialog box to allow the user to specify a file name to save all of the current values in the Color panel. All color set file names saved in this manner will be available in the Color set drop-down list at the top of the Color panel.

4.9.12 Manage color sets...

This button activates a dialog box that allows the user to select a Color set from a list and to Edit (e.g. rename) it or Remove it from the list.

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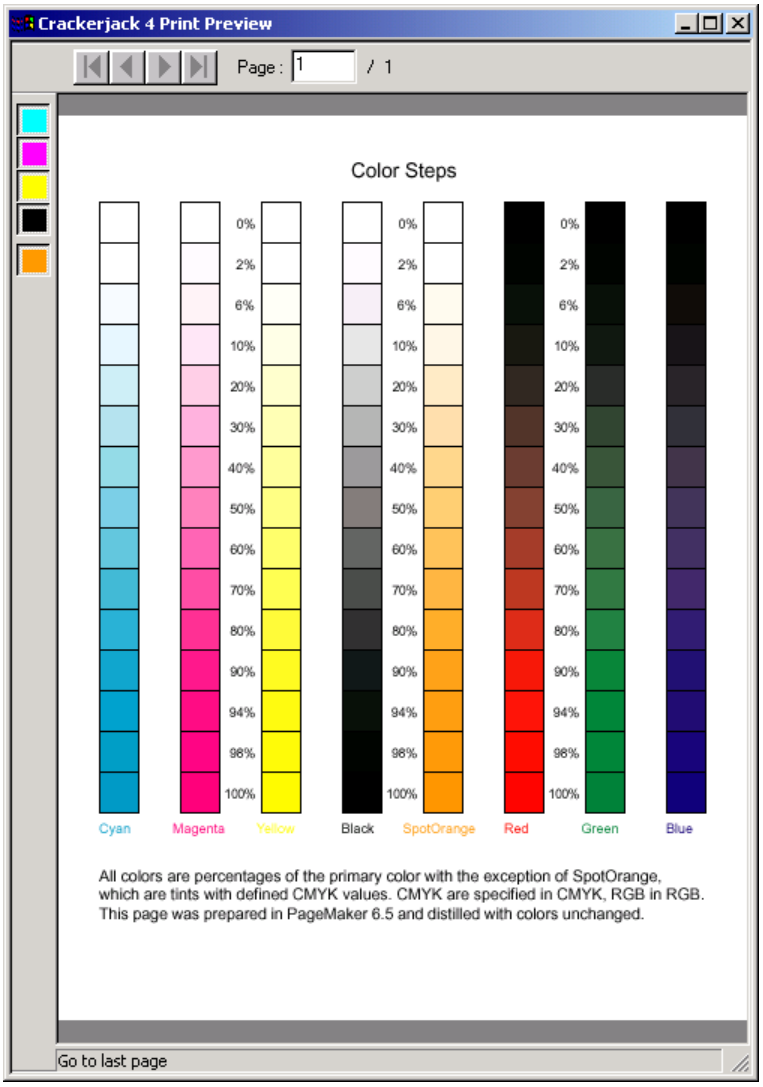
4.10 The Print Preview Window



At the top of the window there are navigation buttons and a page range box. If the document has more than one page the buttons will become active. Alternatively, the user can type in a page number, then hit the “Enter” key on their keyboard to jump to that page.

The print preview window initializes to the current output mode selected in ARTS PDF Crackerjack. If one of the composite modes is chosen, no ink buttons will appear in the window.

Assuming that a separation mode is selected: on the left side of the window there are buttons for each ink which is currently enabled in ARTS PDF Crackerjack. If an ink is deselected on the Color panel its button will be “off” when the preview window initializes. Clicking on a button will turn off that ink. Clicking several buttons quickly will turn off/on

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multiple inks and eliminate unwanted redraws. If the cursor is held briefly over an ink button the ink name will be displayed. This may be particularly useful for identifying spot colors.

Any settings in ARTS PDF Crackerjack that will affect the output will also be displayed here. As inks are turned on or off the effect of things such as overprints and/or knockouts can be seen.

Note: Many factors can affect the way color is displayed on your monitor. Therefore this preview function is not intended as a color management tool, nor is it intended to be a measure of the actual CMYK color values that will appear on output.

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5.0 Using ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot

ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot is a “hot folders” approach to automation. First you set up a ARTS PDF Crackerjack settings file and a group of associated folders, one for initial input, one as a destination for successfully processed jobs, another as a repository for unsuccessful jobs, and finally a destination for “Save to File” output. After everything is set up, make sure that Acrobat has been launched, then simply drop documents that you want processed in the appropriate Pilot Folder.

When active, ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot constantly scans the Pilot Folders. When Pilot sees a new PDF document to be processed, it invokes ARTS PDF Crackerjack with the assigned settings, including destination. ARTS PDF Crackerjack generates and delivers the appropriate PostScript file. Upon completion, Pilot moves the PDF to the Success Folder. If ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot finds a file type other than a PDF in the input Pilot Folder, it moves it to the Excluded Folder. Normally, output is delivered to the selected device, but for “Save to File”, the resultant output file is delivered to the Output Folder.

Pilot folders may be “cascaded”, i.e., the “Success” folder for one operation can also be an input Pilot folder for another. For example, one could set up the Distiller’s “Out” folder to be an input Pilot folder, thereby automating distilling and printing as one continuous operation. Another example of a repetitive task where ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot could be used is outputting fixed page ranges with different media tray selections or for setting screen angles for successive pre-separated (gray) PDF documents.

Naturally, the user can examine any of the folders described above at any time. Additionally, if the user wishes to use ARTS PDF Crackerjack directly (non-automated), he may do so at any time. This direct control by the user only temporarily suspends ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot operation.

To save time, it is recommended that you first generate one or more settings files using ARTS PDF Crackerjack. This process is described above in “ Save Settings, Load Settings” under ‘The “Target” Panel’. If you have not already setup ARTS PDF Crackerjack settings files, do so now and then return to Pilot setup.

To setup or modify Pilot folders, select “Pilot…” from the Acrobat “File” pulldown menu under “ARTS PDF Crackerjack->Pilot...”. Alternatively, you can launch ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot using “keyboard shortcuts”. On the **Macintosh**, hold down the “Command” (Apple) and “Shift” keys and then press the “Z” key. In **Windows**, hold down the “Ctrl” and “Shift” keys and then press the “Z” key. You may also activate ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot by clicking on the “P” button on the Acrobat toolbar.

When you invoke ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot, the Pilot folders dialog box appears. Here you will specify or modify the definitions of which folders are to be used for input and the various types of results.

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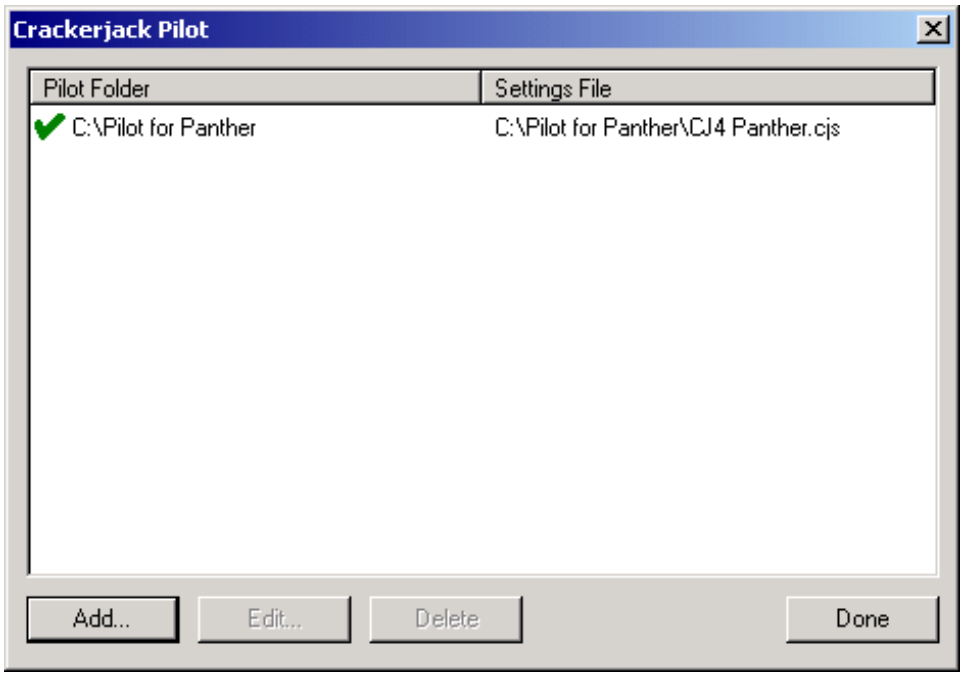
Note: that using network volumes for Pilot folders is not a supported option due to the fact that Acrobat itself is not designed for this use. Some users have had success, while others have not. Therefore, creating Pilot folders on networked drives is purely at the option and risk of the user.

5.1 The “Pilot Folders” Window



The first time that ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot is invoked, no Pilot Folder names appear in the list, and naturally the “Edit...”, and “Remove...” options are grayed out. In this case, only the “Add...” option makes sense. Click on the “Add...” button to define new hot folders. After the “Add...” operation is compete, both the Pilot Input folder name and the settings file name will be here displayed on a new line, and the “Enabled” box will be checked.

If Pilot Folders have already been defined, then they are listed here. In this case, “Add...”, “Edit...”, and “Remove...” are all valid choices. To specify which Pilot folder definition to edit or delete, select a folder name using the cursor and mouse button, then click on the desired function. You may also suspend Pilot’s monitoring of a hot folder by unchecking the “Enabled” box.

5.1.1 Add…

Opens the Pilot Folder Settings window to allow you to create a new Pilot Folder.

5.1.2 Edit…

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Opens the Pilot Folder Settings window to allow you to change the settings for the selected Pilot Folder.

5.1.3 Remove

Deletes all references to the selected Pilot Folder.

Note: that this does not delete the folder from your hard disk, only from the Pilot definitions.

5.1.4 Done

This button closes the ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot window. All visible Pilot Folder definitions and associated information are saved.

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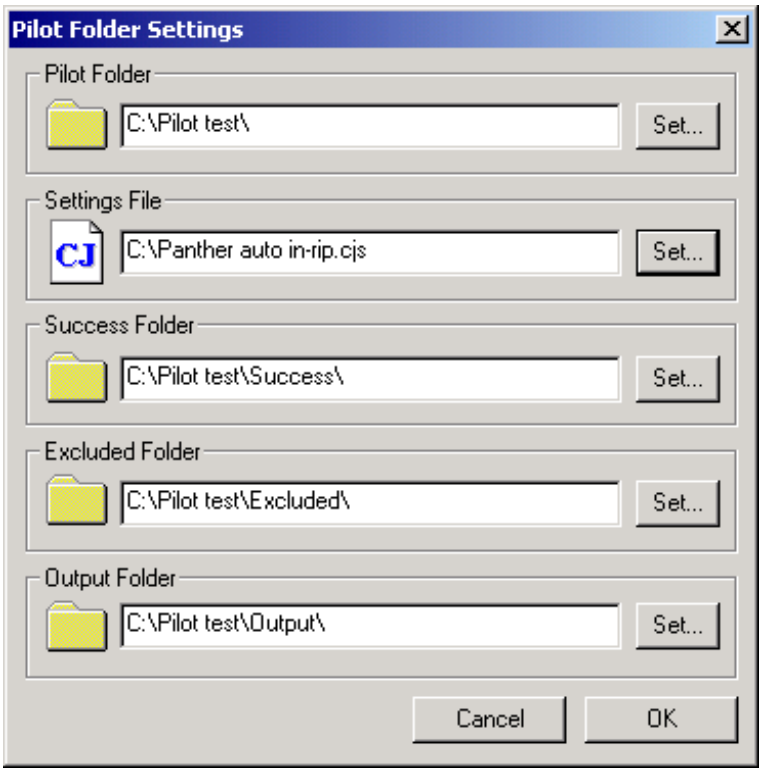
5.2 The “Add Pilot Folder” and “Edit Pilot Folder” Windows



This dialog window allows you to specify the name of the Pilot or hot folder, the Settings file to be applied to it, and the various folders for ARTS PDF Crackerjack Pilot output (Success, Excluded, and Output). If selections have been made, then they appear here. If no selection has been made, then it is so indicated by a blank path name and a warning icon instead of a folder icon.

5.2.1 Set…

To make a Folder selection, the “Set...” button accesses the “Pilot Folder Selection” window.

If you specify the Pilot Folder before specifying folders for Success, Excluded, and Output, then default entries for folders named Success, Excluded, and Output will be created inside the Pilot folder as soon as you click “OK”. Folder selections may be changed individually if so desired.

If you attempt to exit this window without specifying all information (i.e. did you specify a Settings file?), a message is generated guiding you to either complete the task or cancel the attempt.

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5.2.2 OK / Cancel

Naturally, clicking on “OK” confirms your selections and creates the specified folders. “Cancel” discards modifications made during the current visit to this window.

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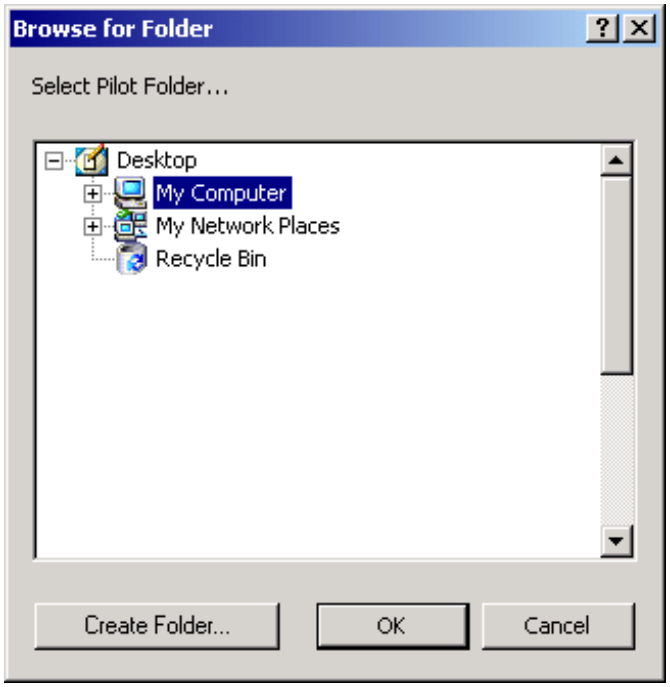
5.3 Pilot Folder “Creation/Selection” Window



This window allows you to select from among any available local or network disk drives. Selection of removable media devices is only available in the **Macintosh** version.

Note that using removable media drives with Pilot means that automation will fail if the media containing the Pilot folder is not mounted.

5.3.1 New Folder (Macintosh) / Create Folder (Windows)

This button allows you to create a new folder at the location currently selected on the hard disk.

5.3.2 ‘Select “…”’ (Macintosh) / OK (Windows)

Clicking this button confirms your selections.

5.3.3 Cancel

Clicking Cancel voids any choices you have made prior to clicking OK or ‘Select “…”’.

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6.0 Troubleshooting

Before contacting us please check the ARTS PDF Crackerjack conference at the ARTS PDF Forum on our web site at: http://forum.artspdf.com

If you have no luck there, please e-mail techsupport@artspdf.com and supply the information below to help us replicate the problem you are experiencing.

a. The platform (Mac or Windows) you are using.
b. The exact version of ARTS PDF Crackerjack you are using (this is located by running ARTS PDF Crackerjack, and then clicking Help → About Third-Party Plug-Ins → ARTS PDF Crackerjack). Please also specify whether you are using a demo or full registered version.
c. The exact version of Adobe Acrobat you are using (this is located by running Adobe Acrobat, and then clicking Help → About Acrobat).
d. The exact version of the Operating System you are using.
e. A description of the expected behavior versus the actual behavior
f. The minimum PDF file that exhibits the behavior.
g. If applicable, please include the resultant PostScript file or a description of the output configuration (RIP model, PostScript interpreter version number, and output device model)

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